**Before you start searching**

Analyze your data needs! Decide on:

- **Topic**
- **Geographic coverage**
- **Time frame**
- **Microdata vs. Aggregate**

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**Where do I find the statistics?**

Understand the big picture: different layers of data sources

**Available Online**

**Government Agency**
- i.e. U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, National Center for Health Statistics.
- Products: data files, reports, working papers, data portals (i.e. American factfinder), etc.

**Statistical Databases**
- Collect data from government agencies, research institutions, trade associations and/or private sectors.
- Products: ICPSR (Microdata); Statista, ProQuest Statistical Abstract/Insights (aggregate data).

**Academic/Research Institution**
- i.e. Climate Change Institute, Urban Institute, UMaine professors.
- Products: books, articles, working papers, reports, data portals, etc.

**Library Catalog**
- **Article Databases**
- Provide access to books or articles from researchers, scholars, or professionals.
- Products: URSUS catalog; article databases such as Business Premium Collection, Econlit, etc.

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**Available in Library**

**Trade Association/Nonprofit Organization**
- i.e. American Hospital Association, American Public Health Association.
- Products: books, journals, trade publications, fact sheets, reports, working papers, etc.

**Library@Librarians**
- We collect resources and create library guides to help you find these resources!

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**Available Online**

**Available in Library**
Start with the Library Guide that provides resources/strategies for your research topic.

1. Use the guide to find the statistical databases available in your library.

2. Targeted online search using Google and other search engines.

3. Use Google Advanced site:.gov domain search to locate statistical products from related government agencies.

4. Conduct literature search in library catalogs, Google Scholar or journal/index databases to find the source of the statistics used in the literature.

5. Use Google Site:.edu or site:.org search to locate statistical products from academic/research institutions, trade associations or nonprofit organizations.

6. Don’t hesitate to ask for help!

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Searching is a Strategic Exploration